

April 19, 1996

Hon. Reed Hunt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Dear Chairman Hunt:

I am deeply concerned about the new "rating system" for TV programming, to be developed by the television industry or FCC for use in conjunction with a "V-Chip."

A "V-Chip" and rating system must NOT be an excuse for the TV industry to shift responsibility for establishing and enforcing sound program standards off of its own shoulders onto the shoulders of beleaguered parents OR for the FCC to not enforce the broadcast indecency law -- which, as you know, was again recently upheld by the Federal courts.

Opinion polls have repeatedly shown that a large majority of the population are concerned about the glut of sex, violence and vulgarity on TV. A primary part of this concern is the effect on children and youth. But large numbers of adults are also personally offended and do not feel that TV shows represent their own values.

The TV industry says it is giving the public what it wants and that programming merely reflects reality. But opinion polls and statements from prominent liberal and conservative spokespersons show that most people do not want a steady diet of gratuitous sex, violence and vulgarity on TV, either for themselves or their children.

Nor does TV reflect "reality" for the vast majority of the American people who, unlike all too many TV characters and guests on daytime talk shows, are not jumping from bed to bed with just about anyone other than a spouse OR engaging in one violent or antisocial act after the other OR constantly cursing OR going through life without any need for God. Even many "reality-based" programs are more fiction than fact.

Not that all TV programming is offensive or harmful. But, all too often, the TV industry serves its own interests, rather than the public interest, and reflects as "reality" the lifestyles and values of a small percentage of amoral or totally depraved individuals, rather than community standards and values. Ratings and a "V-Chip" may have their place, but not to "identify" a steady stream of cultural sewage packaged as TV "entertainment." The answer to this type of programming is to curb it at its source.

It has also been brought to my attention that Congress has instructed the FCC, "in consultation with appropriate public interest groups," to determine if rules established by the TV industry for rating TV programming are acceptable and, if not acceptable, to work with "appropriate public interest groups" in order to establish its own rating system.

In either case, I urge you to include Morality in Media [212-870-3222] as one of the "public interest groups." Founded in 1962, this national, interfaith organization has been at the forefront of efforts to uphold standards of decency on radio and TV.

Sincerely,

Groanne M. Chumbley
770-946-4253

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Hon. Reed Hunt, Chairman
 Federal Communications Commission
 1919 M. Street, NW
 Washington, DC 20554

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MM 93-48

Adie's, 1996

Hon. Reed Hunt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

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Sincerely,

Addie M. George

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DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

April 25, 1996

Honorable Reed Hunt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Hunt:

I have been deeply concerned about all of the publicity that has been given to the proposed rating system for TV programming for use in connection with the V Chip. There are those that would have us believe that this is the perfect solution to all of the violence and sex now on TV. Not so.

Why is such a rating system necessary when we already have a law which makes it illegal to broadcast, at least between 6 a.m. and 10 p.m. "indecent programming" If this law were vigorously enforced and the hours extended, there would be no need for a rating system.

I am afraid this gives an out to the TV industry to just continue to do what they have been doing. For the most part the general public for the most part do not appreciate the crime filled, immoral programs so prevalent today.

We ask you to please make certain that the broadcast indecency law is strictly enforced, and encourage the people responsible to serve the public interests.

Respectfully,

M. K. O'Leary
Mrs. M. K. O'Leary
300 E. 25th St. #10
Yankton, S.D. 57078

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EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

4/24, 1996

Hon. Reed Hunt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Hunt:

I am deeply concerned about the new "rating system" for TV programming, to be developed by the television industry or FCC for use in conjunction with a "V-Chip."

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Sincerely,

Francis J. Ste. D'Acuto

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MM 93-48

April 28, 1996

Hon. Reed Hunt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

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Sincerely,

Catherine T. Brocato

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